

From: matthew@epiphanycorp.com@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 1:29am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear sir or madam:

The proposed settlement with Microsoft is a bad idea.

It is not even remotely sufficient to ensure that they do not continue to use their monopoly in computer operating systems to destroy competition in other areas.

Microsoft has a long and well-documented history of abuse of their monopoly position to gain advantage in other areas, and, moreover, a flagrantly unrepentant stance on all their previous actions, deemed illegal in the courts. Implementing a solution which is simply expeditious, but has no true or lasting effect, will mean that Microsoft will continue to use their dominance in computer operating systems to extend their dominance into new areas.

In addition the to deleterious effect of allowing Microsoft to continue stifling innovation, this settlement seems to say that a company can engage persistently in patently illegal behavior, if it is big enough, rich enough, and important enough. This is not the kind of foundation we want to lay for future businesses-- particularly in the vital area of information technology.

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